(c) whether there is also a move to expand the Prasar Bharati Board?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Government have already introduced an Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha for restoring the provisions of the original Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990. This inter-alia includes a Parliamentary Committee to oversee the functions of the Corporation as per the original Act.

(b) The Prasar Bharati will exercise autonomy in its functioning within the ambit of the Prasar Bharati Act.

(c) No, Sir.

Policy regarding Telecast of Violent/ Vulgar Programmes

3018. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether cheap sex, violence and vulgar programmes are being exhibited by different TV channels having very adverse impact on the viewers, particularly the youth and the children;

(b) whether Government propose to review its whole policy with regard to the telecasting of programmes with a view to screen the programmes tending to have bad influence on the viewers; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) As of now, Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan) previews all its programmes before they are telecast to ensure that they do not contain any excessive violence or vulgarity which may have adverse effect on the viewers. The programmes of foreign satellite channels are uplinked from outside the country and therefore, do not fall within the ambit of Indian laws.

(b) and (c) Government propose to reintroduce the Broadcasting Bill in the Parliament, which, among other things, seeks to regulate the foreign satellite channels and bring them within the ambit of Indian laws and regulations including a broadcasting code which inter-alia would provide for promotion of Indian culture and prohibition of obscenity, etc.

Complaints regarding Unsatisfactory Functioning of Doordarshan Kendras

3019. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding unsatisfactory functioning of some Doordarshan Kendras and interruption in their telecast;

(b) whether Government have been receiving complaints incessantly regarding unsatisfactory functioning of Rajkot Doordarshan Kendra and substandard telecast of programmes;

(c) whether the post of Property Assistant and other important posts have also been abolished at that Kendra; and

(d) whether any remedial measures have been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) There is no sanctioned post of a Property Assistant at Rajkot.

(d) Further posts are not being created in this cetegory. However, vacant posts, if any, will be filled up with Senior Storekeepers.